

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Mark Giammattei

:

:

Serial No.

: Group Art Unit:

Filed:

: Examiner:

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For    METHOD AND SYSTEM TO COMPOUND  
      SILICONE COMPOSITIONS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, DC 20231

S I R:

Please amend the Divisional Application as submitted herewith, of Application  
Serial No. 09/705,266, filed 11/03/2000, as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 1 please replace the title with

EXTRUDER TRANSITION SECTION

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Kindly cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained  
therein claims 1-28.

Kindly add claims 33-43

33. (new) An extruder transition section, said extruder transition section connecting an  
upstream compounding apparatus and a downstream compounding apparatus, said  
extruder transition section comprising an enclosed discharge chamber defined by a first

sectioning wall, a second sectioning wall and a contoured lower wall that transitions toward a discharge port and a shaft that extends through said first sectioning wall, traverses said chamber and extends through said second sectioning wall.

34. (new) An extruder transition apparatus according to claim 33 wherein said shaft is common to said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus.

35. (new) An extruder transition apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising disconnectable couplings that permit said upstream compounding apparatus to be disconnected from said downstream compounding apparatus.

36. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 33 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have co-rotating, intermeshing double screw configurations.

37. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 36 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have length to diameter ratios of 30 or less.

38. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 33 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have counter-rotating, non-intermeshing double screw configurations.

39. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 38 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have length to diameter ratios of 30 or less.

40. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 33 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have reciprocating single screw configurations.

41. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 40 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have length to diameter ratios of 30 or less.

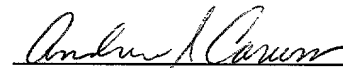
42. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 33 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have non-reciprocating single screw configurations.

43. (new) An extruder transition section according to claim 42 wherein said upstream compounding apparatus and said downstream compounding apparatus have length to diameter ratios of 30 or less.

### REMARKS

Applicants have submitted herewith a division of Application Serial No. 09/705,266, filed November 3, 2000, and respectfully request that the accompanying Preliminary Amendment be entered. Claims 1-28 have been canceled. New claims 33-43 have been added. As such, claims 29-43 remain in the application. Should any issues arise which might be aided by additional information regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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